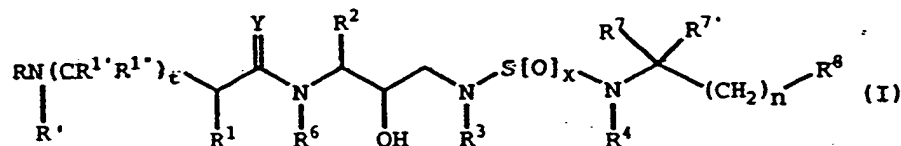


IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Original) A compound represented by the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug or ester thereof wherein:

R represents hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, aralkyl, alkoxy carbonyl, alkoxy carbonyl, aryloxyalkyl, heteroaryloxyalkyl, aralkoxy carbonyl, alkyl carbonyl, cycloalkyl carbonyl, cycloalkyl alkoxy carbonyl, cycloalkylkanoyl, alkanoyl, aralkanoyl, aroyl, aryloxy carbonyl, aryloxy carbonylalkyl, aryloxyalkanoyl, heterocyclyl carbonyl, heterocyclyloxy carbonyl, heterocyclylalkanoyl, heterocyclyl alkoxy carbonyl, heteroaralkanoyl, heteroaralkoxy carbonyl, heteroaryloxy carbonyl, heteroaroyl, hydroxyalkyl, aminocarbonyl, aminoalkanoyl, and mono- and disubstituted aminocarbonyl and mono- and disubstituted aminoalkanoyl radicals wherein the substituents are selected from alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroaralkyl, heterocycloalkyl, heterocycloalkalkyl radicals, or wherein said aminocarbonyl and aminoalkanoyl radicals are disubstituted, said substituents along with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a heterocycloalkyl or heteroaryl radical;

R' represents hydrogen, radicals as defined for R³ or R "SO₂- wherein R" represents radicals as defined for R³; or R and R' together with the nitrogen to which they are attached represent heterocycloalkyl and heteroaryl radicals;

R¹ represents hydrogen, -CH₂C(O)NHCH₃, -C(CH₃)₂ (SH), -C(CH₃)₂(SCH₃), -C(CH₃)₂(S[O]CH₃), -C(CH₃)₂(S[O]₂CH₃), alkyl, haloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl and cycloalkyl radicals,

and amino acid side chains selected from asparagines, S-methyl cysteine and methionine and the sulfoxide (SO) and sulfone (SO₂) derivatives thereof, isoleucine, allo-isoleucine, alanine, leucine, tert-leucine, phenylalanine, ornithine, histidine, norleucine, glutamine, threonine, glycine, allo-threonine, serine, o-alkyl serine, aspartic acid, beta-cyanoalanine and valine side chains;

R¹ and R^{1''} independently represent hydrogen and radicals as defined for R¹, or one of R^{1'} and R^{1''}, together with R¹ and the carbon atoms to which R¹, R^{1'} and R^{1''} are attached, represent a cycloalkyl radical;

R² represents alkyl, aryl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl and aralkyl radicals, which radicals are optionally substituted with a group selected from alkyl and halogen radicals, -NO₂, -CN, -CF₃, -OR⁹ and -SR⁹, wherein R⁹ represents hydrogen and alkyl radicals, and halogen radicals;

R³ represents alkyl, haloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, heteroaryl, heterocycloalkylalkyl, aryl, aralkyl, heteroaralkyl, aminoalkyl and mono- and disubstituted aminoalkyl radicals, wherein said substituents are selected from alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroaralkyl, heterocycloalkyl, and heterocycloalkylalkyl radicals, or in the case of a disubstituted aminoalkyl radical, said substituents along with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, form a heterocycloalkyl or a heteroaryl radical, and thioalkyl, alkylthioalkyl and arylthioalkyl radicals and the sulfone and sulfoxide derivatives thereof;

R⁴ represents hydrogen and radicals as defined by R³;

R⁶ represents hydrogen and alkyl radicals;

R⁷ and R^{7'} independently represent hydrogen and radicals as defined for R³; amino acid side chains selected from the group consisting of valine, isoleucine, glycine, alanine, allo-isoleucine,

asparagines, leucine, glutamine, and t-butylglycine; radicals represented by the formulas $-C(O)R^{16}$, $-CO_2R^{16}$, $-SR^{16}$, $-CONR^{16}R^{17}$, $-CF_3$ and $-NR^{16}R^{17}$; or R^{17} together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a cycloalkyl radical;

R^8 represents cyano, hydroxyl, alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, aryl, aralkyl, heterocycloalkyl and heteroaryl radicals and radicals represented by the formulas $C(O)R^{16}$, CO_2R^{16} , SO_2R^{16} , SR^{16} , $CONR^{16}R^{17}$, CF_3 and $NR^{16}R^{17}$;

wherein R^{16} and R^{17} independently represent hydrogen and radicals as defined for R^3 , or R^{16} and R^{17} together with a nitrogen to which they are attached in the formula $NR^{16}R^{17}$ represent heterocycloalkyl and heteroaryl radicals;

x represents 1 or 2;

n represents an integer of from 0 to 6;

t represents either 0, 1 or 2: and

y represents O, S and NR^{15} wherein R^{15} represents hydrogen and radicals as defined for R^3 .

Claims 2-42 (Canceled)